



NUCLEAR ENERGY INSTITUTE

Anthony R. Pietrangelo
DIRECTOR, LICENSING
NUCLEAR GENERATION

August 2, 1999

Mr. Samuel J. Collins, Director
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
Washington, DC 20555

Dear Mr. Collins:

In 1995, the industry developed *Guideline for Managing NRC Commitments*. The document was provided to the NRC for review and potential endorsement in December, 1995. In SECY 95-300, the NRC staff indicated that the document provided an acceptable method to manage NRC commitments. A subsequent letter to the industry in early 1996 indicated acceptance of the document by the NRC.

The guideline has been used extensively by licensees to manage their commitments. In 1998, the NRC conducted audits of commitment management programs at eight facilities. While there were no major program shortcomings, the NRC determined that additional guidance was needed on managing commitments. SECY 98-224 indicated that the NRC staff was working with NEI to revise the guidance document.

As a result of our interactions, we have developed NEI 99-04, *Guidelines for Managing NRC Commitment Changes* (enclosed). We respectfully request NRC review and acceptance of this guideline, similar to that of the previous guideline noted above.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to your staff for their long hours in the revision process of this enhanced document. We believe the guidance will further our mutual goal of improved clarity and predictability in the regulatory process.

If you have questions or comments please contact me.

Sincerely,

Anthony R. Pietrangelo

ATTACHMENT

ARP/RCE/ngs
Enclosure